



The Urban District Council of Uxbridge.

Annual Medical Report

FOR THE YEAR 1937

By
W. TOWNSEND DOBSON, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.)
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Uxbridge Urban District Council.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1937-8.

COUNCILLOR J. COCHRANE (*Chairman*).

„ S. E. BISHOP.
„ MRS. C. E. BROWNE.
„ E. A. CLARK.
„ W. H. COX.
„ MRS. S. H. DUBBERLEY.
„ MAJOR E. W. C. FLAVELL.
„ J. HOPTROFF.
„ E. F. JEFFREY.
„ T. KELSEY.
„ W. E. LORDING.
„ J. E. POND.
„ F. W. PRICE.
„ T. R. THIRTLE.
„ J. R. THONGER.
„ W. TURNER.

The Chairman of the Council (Councillor H. A. Leno)
and the Vice-Chairman of the Council (Councillor W. G. Pomeroy)
were ex-officio Members.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health—

W. TOWNSEND DOBSON, M.R.C.S.(Eng.), L.R.C.P.(Lond.)
(Part time.)

Senior Sanitary Inspector—

T. C. F. PAIGE, M.S.I.A.
(Certificates of the Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Board and The Royal
Sanitary Institute.)
(Whole time.)

Sanitary Inspectors—

(Whole time.)

V. E. BAUGHAN, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

(Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute, Sanitary Science Certificate, Meat and
Food Inspector's Certificate and Smoke Inspector's Certificate.)

B. W. E. MAKEPEACE, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

(Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute, Meat and Food Inspector's Certificate.)

E. W. BUDD, A.R.San.I.
(Certificate Royal Sanitary Institute.)

Clerk—

A. J. BENSON.

Junior Clerk—

R. B. ROWLANDS.

Shorthand-Typist—

MISS M. H. STANBRIDGE.

Annual Report

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1937

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
259, HIGH STREET,
UXBRIDGE.

June, 1938.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE UXBRIDGE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my Annual Report for 1937 upon the health and conditions of the Urban District of Uxbridge. This Report has been compiled in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health Circular No. 1650, and for convenience of reference an Index has been incorporated at the end.

I consider that the health of the Uxbridge Urban District is most satisfactory—you will see later in the Report that our birth rate is higher than that for England and Wales and our death rate lower. I would particularly draw your attention to the comment upon comparisons in birth and death rates of districts.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA. GEOGRAPHY OF THE DISTRICT.

The Urban District of Uxbridge occupies the north-western angle of the County of Middlesex, and its western boundary for the greater portion of its length follows the River Colne.

The Frays River, a tributary of the Colne, leaves the main stream at Denham Lock, and joins it again at Yiewsley. The Pinn, a small stream which rises near Pinner, flows through Ickenham in a south-westerly direction, on through Swakeleys, turning south through the Royal Air Force Depot, continuing through Lowe & Shawyer's Nurseries, and ultimately joins up with the River Colne at Yiewsley.

The London-Birmingham section of the Grand Union Canal traverses the western boundary, running parallel with the Colne, and it is on the banks of this Canal that the more important industries of the District are situate.

The District is mainly flat, but at Harefield it rises 291 feet above sea level, and at Hillingdon Church and Pole Hill Road, Hillingdon, 188 feet. Uxbridge Common, in Park Road, has an altitude of 200 feet, and is a healthy open space with a fine view across the valley to Harrow-on-the-Hill. In an easterly direction on clear days there is an unobstructed view over London to the hills at Sydenham from the Common and Pole Hill Road—a distance of over 20 miles. To the west there is the valley of the Colne.

GEOLOGICAL FEATURES.

The geological structure of the District is of an interesting, though somewhat complicated nature. In the River Valleys there are the "Barton Beds"—alluvial ballast; whilst at Hillingdon and Harefield there are beds of glacial gravel, and at Harefield an outcrop of chalk and beds of sand. Cowley lies on a bed of brick earth, whilst Ickenham stands on London Clay, and North Hillingdon on London Clay and the "Reading Beds" (mottled clay). It is interesting to note that the glacial gravel—a result of the Great Ice Age—does not extend much further south than Uxbridge.

AREA.

<i>Parish.</i>							<i>Acres.</i>
Uxbridge	...	...	...	...	...	...	86·851
Hillingdon West	...	...	...	...	...	...	781·180
Hillingdon East	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,764·949
Harefield	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,621·707
Ickenham	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,465·176
Cowley	...	...	...	...	...	...	517·500
Total (Area of District)							10,237·363 acres.

POPULATION.

The Registrar-General's Estimate of Population for the mid-year 1937 is 41,950 persons, showing an increase of 2,250 upon the figure given for 1936.

Estimated population at end of year 1937: 44,738 persons.

ESTIMATED POPULATION AT END OF YEAR.

<i>Parish.</i>							
Uxbridge and Hillingdon West	...	...					14,328
Hillingdon East	...	...	...	...	...	...	21,101
Harefield	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,744
Ickenham	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,787
Cowley	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,778
Total							44,738

APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES AT THE END OF YEAR, ACCORDING TO THE RATE BOOKS.

<i>Parish.</i>							
Uxbridge and Hillingdon West	...	...					3,093
Hillingdon East	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,482
Harefield	...	...	...	...	...	...	997
Ickenham	...	...	...	...	...	...	727
Cowley	...	...	...	...	...	...	659
Total							10,958

RATEABLE VALUE.

1935.	1936.	1937.
£294,734	£312,654	£332,220

PRODUCT OF A PENNY RATE.

(Estimated.)

1935.	1936.	1937.
£1,180	£1,230	£1,350

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

An examination of the 1931 Census statistics shows that our population is "old"—*i.e.* there is a large proportion of elderly people. The effect of this is discussed under the heading "Comparisons of Vital Statistics."

INDUSTRIES.

The working-class population is engaged in many industries, which include Saw Mills, Welding Works, Ticket and other Printing Works, Rubber Works, Engineering, Manufacture of Steel Tanks and Drums, Ticket Punches, Washing Machines, Adding Machines, Automatic Ticket Machines, etc., Plating Works, Market Gardening, Culture of Flowers, Laundries, Brewing, Distemper Manufacture, Agriculture, Milling, Manufacture of Furniture and Joinery, Beehives and Beekeepers' Appliances, Extraction of Sand, Gravel and Shingle, and Chalk, and the Manufacture of Concrete Bricks and Pipes. I might add that the two large film studios in an adjoining area find employment for a considerable number of Uxbridge residents. The District is developing rapidly, and consequently many people are absorbed in the building and allied trades. Many City workers have their homes here, and travel backward and forward by train or coach.

UNEMPLOYMENT.

The following table shows the numbers of persons registered on the Uxbridge Employment Exchange.

1936				1937			
<i>January</i>		<i>December</i>		<i>January</i>		<i>December</i>	
<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
470	133	524	151	524	151	730	281

This gives a total unemployment figure in December, 1936, of 675, and in December, 1937, of 1,011, an increase of 336.

I very much regret that the above table shows a considerable increase in the unemployment figures.

Quite a large number of workers had come from other areas and obtained employment in local industries, some of which unfortunately were subject to drastic cutting of staff. There is, however, no doubt that this is only temporary and that by the middle of 1938 there will, in my opinion, be a drop in the number of unemployed persons

I am aware of no evidence, statistical or otherwise, that unemployment in this District has exercised any significant influence on the health or physique of children or adults.

CAUSES OF SICKNESS AND INVALIDITY.

I have been unable to discover any particular or unusual cause of sickness or invalidity during the year. I do not think I can make any comment on any special occupation or environment which has a prejudicial effect on the health of the inhabitants of the area.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

COMPARISON OF VITAL STATISTICS.

When comparing the vital statistics of Districts one must have regard to the full circumstances and not solely to the rates which are to be compared. For example :—

BIRTH RATE.—Regard must be had to sex distribution, marital conditions and the numbers of women of child-bearing age. If the birth rate is calculated solely on the estimated population, then it may appear that the birth rate in one District is considerably lower than that in another. If then we examine the other conditions outlined above and correct our rates in proportion we would possibly find that the rate in that District which formerly seemed low was higher than that in the first area.

Unfortunately the figures which have to be provided in this Report are specified by the Ministry to be based upon the Registrar-General's estimated population, and these I have given.

DEATH RATE.—In order that a fair comparison could be made between the death rates of various Districts the Registrar-General has issued what is known as a Comparability Factor to each Medical Officer of Health. In the case of this District the factor is 1.08. The factor may be said to represent the *population handicap* to be applied to the area, and, *when multiplied by the crude death rate experienced in the area, modifies the latter so as to make it comparable with the crude death rate for the country as a whole or with the similarly adjusted death rate for any other area.*

The effect of this is to allow for sex and age distribution of the inhabitants of Districts.

TOTAL BIRTHS.

				<i>Live</i>	<i>Live</i>	<i>Stillborn</i>	<i>Stillborn.</i>	
<i>Sex.</i>				<i>Legitimate.</i>	<i>Illegitimate.</i>	<i>Legitimate.</i>	<i>Illegitimate.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Males	...	...	...	344	19	8	—	371
Females	...	...	...	346	6	14	—	366
				—	—	—	—	—
Totals		...		690	25	22	—	737

BIRTH RATE.

	<i>No.</i>		<i>Birth Rate.</i>	<i>Basis.</i>
LIVE BIRTHS	690	Legitimate	16·448	Per 1,000 Registrar-General's estimated Resident Population.
	25	Illegitimate	0·596	
	715	Total	17·044	
STILL BIRTHS	22	Legitimate	29·850	Per 1,000 total (i.e., live and still) births.
	—	Illegitimate	0·000	
	22	Total	29·850	
TOTAL BIRTHS	712	Legitimate	16·973	Per 1,000 Registrar-General's estimated Resident Population.
	25	Illegitimate	0·596	
	737	Total	17·569	

The birth rate for the year under review was 17·569 per thousand, which may be compared with the figure of 18·690 for the preceding year.

The corresponding figures for England and Wales were 14·9 and 14·8 respectively.

I have to report a slight increase in the still birth rate from 26·95 to 29·85 per 1,000 total births.

DEATHS AND DEATH RATE.

Uxbridge has a death rate considerably lower than that of England and Wales and the Great and Smaller Towns.

There is throughout the country a slight increase in the death rate, and the figure for this District increased from 10·990 to 11·198 per 1,000 Registrar-General's Estimated Population.

	Total Deaths (All Causes)		Death Rate Per 1,000 Registrar-General's estimated Resident Population	
	1936	1937	1936	1937
Male	211	234	5·740	6·024
Female	193	201	5·250	5·174
Total	404	435	10·990	11·198

In the following table you will see the number of deaths from certain diseases during the year :—

<i>Disease.</i>	<i>No. of Deaths.</i>	<i>Rates per 1,000 Population.</i>
Heart Disease	104	2·48
Cancer	54	1·29
Tuberculosis (all forms) ...	20	0·48
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	5	0·12
Influenza	16	0·38
Pneumonia (all forms)	32	0·76
Bronchitis	10	0·24
Kidney Disease	22	0·52
Measles (all ages)	1	0·02
Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	1	0·02
Scarlet Fever	—	0·00
Diphtheria	5	0·12
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis ...	4	0·09
Appendicitis	4	0·09

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES.

I have to report that there was one death from Puerperal Sepsis during 1937, compared with nil during the previous year. The rate of deaths from other Puerperal causes has dropped.

	<i>No. of Deaths.</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.</i>
Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis	1	1·357
Deaths from other Puerperal causes ...	1	1·357
	—	—
Totals	2	2·714
	—	—

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Death Rate.</i>
All Infants ...	22	19	41	57·343 <i>per 1,000 live births.</i>
Legitimate Infants	21	18	39	56·522 <i>per 1,000 legitimate live births.</i>
Illegitimate Infants	1	1	2	80·000 <i>per 1,000 illegitimate live births.</i>

The number of deaths of infants under one year has increased from 36 during 1936 to 41 during the year under review, the rate increasing from 49·860 to 57·343.

STREET ACCIDENTS.

By courtesy of the Commissioner of Police for the Metropolis I am able to give the following information from a return of street accidents resulting in death and personal injury during the period 1st January to 31st December, 1937, within the Uxbridge Urban District.

During the year there were seven fatal accidents, a reduction, I am pleased to note, of five upon the numbers for the past two years.

You will observe from the summary below that one pedal cyclist and one motor cyclist were involved in fatal accidents. Five pedestrians were knocked down and fatally injured by motor vehicles, and of these accidents four occurred in that section of Long Lane, Hillingdon, which is not subject to a speed restriction of 30 miles per hour.

FATAL ACCIDENTS.

<i>Date & Time.</i>	<i>Location.</i>	<i>Sex and Age.</i>	<i>Brief Particulars.</i>
13/1/37 (2.15 p.m.)	Uxbridge Road, 30 yards east of Kingston Lane	Male, 18	Pedal cyclist fell from machine and was run over by heavy goods vehicle.
16/3/37 (9.55 p.m.)	Long Lane, 50 yards north of Grosvenor Crescent	Male, 40	Pedestrian knocked down by motor lorry.
5/6/37 (12.10 p.m.)	Shrubs Road, 50 yards from junction with Northwood Road	Male, 23	Motor cyclist in collision with private car.
25/9/37 (1.20 p.m.)	Barnacre Close, 100 yards south of Peachey Lane	Male, $1\frac{9}{12}$	Pedestrian knocked down by goods vehicle.
26/9/37 (7.30 p.m.)	Long Lane, 50 yards south of Grosvenor Crescent	Female, 22	Pedestrian knocked down by private car.
15/10/37 (3.10 p.m.)	Long Lane junction with Grosvenor Crescent	Female, 47	Pedestrian knocked down in a collision between 2 goods motor vans and pedal cyclist.
11/11/37 (1.10 p.m.)	Long Lane junction of Misbourne Road	Male, $8\frac{1}{2}$	Pedestrian knocked down by motor cycle.

OTHER ACCIDENTS.

35 accidents involving serious personal injury.

251 accidents involving slight personal injury.

BIRTH RATES, DEATH RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, AND CASE RATES
FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1937.

(Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.)

	<i>Uxbridge</i>	<i>England and Wales</i>	<i>125 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London</i>	<i>148 Smaller Towns, Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census (Includes Uxbridge)</i>	<i>London Adminis- trative County</i>
	<i>Rates per 1,000 Population.</i>				
BIRTHS :—					
Live	17·044	14·9	14·9	15·3	13·3
Still	0·548	0·60	0·67	0·54	0·54
DEATHS :—					
All causes	11·198	12·4	12·5	11·9	12·3
Typhoid and Para- typhoid fevers ...	0·00	0·00	0·01	0·00	0·00
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	0·02	0·02	0·03	0·02	0·01
Scarlet fever ...	0·00	0·01	0·01	0·01	0·01
Whooping cough ...	0·02	0·04	0·04	0·03	0·06
Diphtheria	0·12	0·07	0·08	0·05	0·05
Influenza	0·38	0·45	0·39	0·42	0·38
Violence	0·55	0·54	0·45	0·42	0·51
NOTIFICATIONS :—					
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet fever ...	3·22	2·33	2·56	2·42	2·09
Diphtheria	0·62	1·49	1·81	1·38	1·93
Enteric fever	0·05	0·05	0·06	0·04	0·05
Erysipelas	0·29	0·37	0·43	0·34	0·44
Pneumonia	1·19	1·36	1·58	1·20	1·18
	<i>Rates per 1,000 Live Births.</i>				
DEATHS :—					
Under 1 year of age ...	57·343	58	62	55	60
From Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age ...	9·790	5·8	7·9	3·2	12·0
MATERNAL MORTALITY :—					
Puerperal Sepsis ...	1·399	0·97	Not available		
Others... ..	1·399	2·26			
Total	2·798	3·23			
	<i>Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e. Live and Still).</i>				
MATERNAL MORTALITY :—					
Puerperal Sepsis ...	1·357	0·94	Not available		
Others	1·357	2·17			
Total	2·714	3·11			
NOTIFICATIONS :—					
Puerperal fever ...	29·851	13·93	17·59	11·52	{ 4·15 14·34
Puerperal pyrexia ...					

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The Clinical Research Association Ltd., of London, carry out all laboratory examinations for us. The examinations consist mainly of throat swabbing for Klebs-Loeffler Bacilli (Diphtheria) sputa for tubercle bacilli and blood tests for Typhoid Fever. In addition, the Association carries out examinations, both chemical and bacteriological, of water and milk.

The work has been done in a satisfactory manner. During the year the following pathological examinations were made :—

	<i>Positive.</i>	<i>Negative.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Sputa for Tubercle Bacilli... ..	3	29	32
Throat Swabbings for Klebs-Loeffler Bacilli (Diphtheria)	10	115	125
Nose Swabbings for Klebs-Loeffler Bacilli	—	4	4
Post-Nasal Swabbings for Meningococci...	6	10	16
Post-Nasal Swabbings for Hæmolytic Strep- tococci	11	17	28
Specimens of Blood for Bacillus Typhosus	1	—	1
Specimens of Blood for Malaria	1	—	1
	<hr/> 32	<hr/> 175	<hr/> 207
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

About the middle of the year a specification was drawn up for a motor ambulance, and after your approval the sanction of the Minister of Health was sought to obtain tenders and purchase a new vehicle.

By the end of the year a tender had been accepted for a Talbot 25 h.p. ambulance fitted with a Lomas body and delivery was expected early in 1938.

Very great care was taken in drawing up the specification and the ambulance is, in my opinion, one of the best types obtainable and contains the most modern equipment.

When the new vehicle is put into operation the old Bedford ambulance will be used as a standby.

The ambulances are garaged and maintained by Messrs. A. Norman Reeves, and this firm have had telephones fitted in the homes of two members of their staff, and so when a call is given in the middle of the night, it is passed direct to one or other of the two men, according to the duty rota. On no occasion has delay in turning out, night or day, come to my notice ; in fact I fully believe that the service has been remarkably prompt.

The Council have reciprocal arrangements with the Hayes and Harlington U.D.C. and the Ruislip-Northwood U.D.C.

As regards Yiewsley and West Drayton U.D.C., that authority pays this Council for any journey made in connection with its district. We also protect part of Eton R.D.

During 1937 the ambulance covered a distance of 6,257 miles, carrying 651 patients.

AMBULANCE CHARGES.

Anywhere in the Uxbridge District	... ..	5/-
Out of Uxbridge Urban District :—		
To any London Hospital from within the district	... ..	21/- for residents.
To West London Hospital from within the district	... ..	15/- for residents.
9d. per mile elsewhere, with a minimum of	...	7/6 for residents.
1s. per mile elsewhere, with a minimum of	...	10/- for non-residents.
Extra attendant, 2s. per hour. Waiting, 2s. 6d. per hour.		

NURSING IN THE HOME.

There has been no change in the arrangements for nursing in the home.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

All Clinics in the district are run by the Middlesex County Council, and for convenience I have set out below the days and times these centres are open.

School Children—Minor Ailments : Whitehall Council School, Uxbridge, 9.30 a.m., Tuesdays and Fridays. Medical Officer attends on Fridays. Dr. Kate Glyn-Jones.

Harefield Council School, 9.30 a.m., Thursdays, Dr. Tibbles.

Oak Farm School Clinic, Wednesdays, 9.30 a.m., Medical Officer attends 2nd and 4th Wednesdays. Dr. R. A. Jones.

Do. Ophthalmic : Whitehall Council School. Mondays and Thursdays at 9.30 a.m.

Do. Dental : Whitehall Council School and Oak Farm Council School.

Tuberculosis : Dr. J. T. Nicol-Roe, Tuberculosis Physician to the Middlesex County Council, attends at the Dispensary, 156, High Street, Uxbridge, on Thursdays, at 2 p.m.

Venereal Diseases : There are no centres for the treatment of Venereal Diseases within the District, but notices are posted up, showing when and where treatment can be obtained free of cost under conditions of secrecy, in the London Hospitals.

The nearest Clinic is at the West London Hospital, from 7.30 a.m. to 7.30 p.m., and on Sundays from 10 a.m. to noon.

- Ante-Natal : 109, High Street, Uxbridge. 2nd and 4th Wednesdays each month, 9.30 a.m. Dr. Kate Glyn-Jones.
Oak Farm School, Long Lane, Hillingdon. 2nd and 4th Mondays each month. 2 p.m. Dr. R. A. Jones.
- Midwives : Oak Farm School, Long Lane, Hillingdon. 3rd and 5th Mondays each month. 2 p.m.
- Welfare : Hillingdon Central, British Legion Hall, Uxbridge Road. Mondays and Wednesdays, 2.30 p.m. Dr. Kate Glyn-Jones.
Harefield Memorial Hall. Thursdays, 2.30 p.m. Dr. Tibbles.
New Methodist Hall, High Road, Hayes End. Thursdays and Fridays, 2.30 p.m. Dr. Shelley.
St. Andrew's Hall, Uxbridge. Thursdays, 2.30 p.m. Dr. R. A. Jones.
Ickenham, New Church Hall. Tuesdays, 2.30 p.m. Dr. R. A. Jones.
109, High Street, Uxbridge. Tuesdays and Fridays, 2.30 p.m. Dr. Kate Glyn-Jones.
Oak Farm Council School, Long Lane, Hillingdon. Wednesdays and Fridays, 2.30 p.m. Dr. R. A. Jones.

HOSPITALS.

The hospitals and institutions in this Urban District are :—

- (a) General Hospital : The Middlesex County Hospital at Hillingdon which (Public) has 140 beds and cots.
1,004 persons were admitted to this hospital from the Uxbridge Urban District during 1937.
- (b) Institution : The Hillingdon Institution has accommodation for approximately 108 healthy persons and the Infirmary Block for chronic cases (males and females) has accommodation for approximately 109.
- (c) Cottage Hospital : The Uxbridge and District Cottage Hospital, Harefield (Voluntary) Road, has 22 beds available (including two private wards); is maintained by voluntary subscription.
In 1937 the Council made a contribution of £50 towards its support.
- (d) Tuberculosis : The Middlesex County Sanatorium has accommodation for 378 persons (males 150, females 150, children 60, observation beds 18).
- (e) Infectious Diseases Hospital : The Uxbridge Joint Isolation Hospital, Kingston Lane, Uxbridge.
This is maintained by a Board comprised of representatives of its four constituent Local Authorities :

Uxbridge, Yiewsley and West Drayton, Hayes and Harlington, and Ruislip-Northwood Urban District Councils.

Cases admitted to this Hospital are : Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Enteric Fever, Erysipelas, Ophthalmia Neonatorum, Encephalitis Lethargica, Acute Polio-Encephalitis, Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis, and complicated cases of Measles, Whooping Cough, Influenza and Pneumonia.

The Hospital has beds for 12 Diphtheria cases, 24 Scarlet Fever cases, and there are 12 cubicles for cases where cross-infection has arisen.

During 1937, 148 persons were admitted to the Hospital from Uxbridge Urban District : 118 Scarlet Fever, 25 Diphtheria, 1 Enteric Fever, 1 Meningitis, 2 Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis, 1 Mumps.

- (f) Maternity : None. Cases are sent to Hillingdon County Hospital by arrangement.
- (g) Children's Hospitals : None. Patients are treated at Hillingdon County Hospital.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR ADMISSION OF PATIENTS TO HOSPITALS.

- The County Hospital, Hillingdon (General) : Medical practitioners are advised to communicate direct with the Medical Officer of the hospital, telephone No. Uxbridge 1782, to arrange for removal of patients to the hospital. It is advisable to leave a note at the house of the patient stating reasons for admission. Where public assistance is required, the nearest relatives should accompany the patient to give details to the Almoner at the hospital.
- Infectious Diseases Hospital : Medical practitioners should telephone to the Matron at Uxbridge 128 and ask for arrangements to be made for the patient's removal.
- Small Pox : Medical practitioners should communicate by telephone to the Public Health Department (Uxbridge 900) or after hours with my house (Uxbridge 80).

TREATMENT OF PUERPERAL FEVER AND PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

Following the issue of the Public Health (Notification of Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia) Regulations, 1926, a scheme was prepared by the Middlesex County Council to provide specialist and hospital services in connection with the treatment of cases of puerperal fever or puerperal pyrexia occurring in the maternity and child welfare area of the County Council. The scheme contains the following provisions :—

- (1) The appointment of J. M. Wyatt, Esq., F.R.C.S., Obstetric Physician to St. Thomas's Hospital, to act as Consultant Obstetric Physician on behalf of the County Council when a second opinion is required.
- (2) The bacteriological examination of specimens of lochia or blood at the Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine.
- (3) The reception of cases of puerperal infection into the special department of the North-Western Hospital (London County Council Special Hospitals Service) under the care of Dr. Wyatt, and the Isolation Block, Queen Charlotte's Hospital, Hammersmith.
- (4) The provision of trained nurses for the home nursing of cases of puerperal sepsis.

During the year it was not found necessary to call Dr. Wyatt into consultation in connection with any Uxbridge cases.

Of the 22 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia occurring during the year eighteen were treated in the Hillingdon County Hospital, three at home, and one in Queen Charlotte's Isolation Hospital.

There were no cases of Puerperal Fever.

TREATMENT OF OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

The scheme of the Middlesex County Council for the treatment of ophthalmia neonatorum, occurring in infants living in the maternity and child welfare area for which the County Council is responsible, provides for :—

- (1) The admission of infants suffering from the disease, accompanied by their mothers, to St. Margaret's Hospital (London County Council Special Hospitals Service).
- (2) The domiciliary nursing of cases.

One case occurred during 1937. The infant and mother were removed to St. Margaret's Hospital.

STEAM DISINFECTOR.

The building is situated in Cowley Mill Road and contains a Manlove Alliott High Pressure Steam Disinfector of oval form with a chamber capacity of 60 cubic feet. The disinfector is fitted with vacuum producing and hot air apparatus and a special fitting for use with chemical disinfectants ; a recording gauge is attached to the apparatus. Steam is produced in an oil-fired cross-tube vertical boiler of four nominal horse-power having an evaporation of approximately 200 pounds of steam per hour at a maximum pressure of 80 pounds per square inch.

The plant is working satisfactorily and efficiently.

It was not found possible to make satisfactory arrangements with local contractors for the removal of bedding to the Disinfector Station and the Council provided an Austin 12/4 motor-van for this purpose.

During the year 1937 the following articles were disinfected :—

SLUM CLEARANCE.

Beds	81	Mattresses	75
Covers	15	Quilts	42
Bolsters	70	Bedspreads	9
Pillows	182	Sundries	63
Blankets	158		—
Sheets	71		804
Eiderdowns	38		—

PREVENTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Beds	88	Mattresses	155
Covers	65	Quilts	44
Bolsters	107	Bedspreads	31
Pillows	260	Sundries	197
Blankets	442		—
Sheets	207		1,676
Eiderdowns	80		—

RECREATION GROUNDS.

The Council is to be congratulated on the foresight shown from time to time in acquiring various open spaces.

During the summer months the Hillingdon and Uxbridge Silver Prize Band plays regularly on Sunday evenings on certain of the Grounds and on Tuesday evenings on the Fassnidge Memorial Recreation Ground.

I give below the location and areas of the Open Spaces within our boundaries :—

COMMONS :								<i>Acres.</i>
Watts Common, Harefield ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5.33
The Green, Harefield ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.66
Ickenham Green ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22.80
Ickenham Marsh ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18.44
Coney Green, Hillingdon ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9.76
No Man's Land, Hillingdon ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.95
Colham Green Sheepwash ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.21
Uxbridge Common ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14.56
George Square ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.50
The Old Burial Ground ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.00
Total								81.21

PARKS AND RECREATION GROUNDS :								<i>Acres.</i>
Taylor's Meadow Recreation Ground, Harefield	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.93
Mount Pleasant Recreation Ground, Harefield...	...	...	...	...	...	...	}	32.42
Mount Pleasant, Bell's Sports Ground, Harefield	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hillingdon Court Park	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	56.62
Connaught Recreation Ground	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.94
Extension to above, 1929	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.74
Fassnidge Memorial Recreation Ground...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8.00
Rockingham Recreation Ground	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12.75
Extension to Rockingham Recreation Ground	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.51
Manor Waye Recreation Ground...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.50
Hillingdon House Farm Estate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	149.00
Addition to Hillingdon House Farm Estate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.65
Cowley Hall Recreation Ground	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15.86
The Drive, Swakeleys Recreation Ground	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.03
Oak Farm	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32.00
Total								334.95

OTHER OPEN SPACES :								<i>Acres.</i>
Ivy House Estate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10.00
Madfield Covert	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.00
Swakeleys Estate, Ickenham	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32.00
Parkway, Hillingdon	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.40
Oak Farm Estate (Yeading Brook Belt)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.26
Yeading Brook Belt	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	133.98
Harefield Place Reservation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	132.00
Polehill Road and Polehill Farm...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	56.00
Breakspears, Harefield (part of Green Belt)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	572.00
Total								942.64

Total Area of Open Spaces in District, 1,358.80 acres, or 13.27% of the area of the District. In addition to this there are several small spaces and roadside wastes.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

ADOPTIVE ACTS, BYE-LAWS AND LOCAL REGULATIONS,

relating to the Public Health in force in this District :

The Baths and Washhouses Acts, 1846 to 1899.

The Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890.

The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890.

The Museums and Gymnasiums Act (Gymnasiums only), 1891.

The Private Street Works Act, 1892.

The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907. Parts II., III., V., VI., and Sections 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66 and 67 of Part IV., and Section 95.

The Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, 1899-1923.

The Public Health Act, 1925.

The Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

Bye-Laws relating to :

Common Lodging Houses, 1887.

Nuisances, 1887.

Cleansing of Earth Closets, Privies and Ashpits, 1887.

Offensive Trades, 1887.

Uxbridge Common, 1902.

New Streets and Buildings, 1907.

Trade of a Dealer in Rags, Bones, etc., 1913.

Disused Burial Ground (Uxbridge), 1915.

Fassnidge Memorial Recreation Ground, 1927.

Pleasure Grounds and Open Spaces, 1927.

Houses Let in Lodgings, 1929.

Slaughterhouses, 1929.

Gipsy Encampments (Middlesex County Council), 1931.

Open Spaces (Ickenham Green and Ickenham Marsh), 1931.

WATER SUPPLY.

The District has a piped supply of water from two undertakings :—

- (a) That of the Council, which supplies the parishes of Uxbridge and Hillingdon West ; and
- (b) That of the Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Company, which supplies the remainder of the area.

The supply has been satisfactory, both in quality and in quantity.

A number of isolated houses derive their supplies of water from shallow wells.

A summary of the analyses taken during the year of the water supply is given below.

It will be seen from the summary that in three instances the report of the Analyst on water taken from wells showed this to be unfit for drinking purposes, and appropriate action was taken.

In one case the owners of the property concerned made the necessary connection to the mains of the Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Co., while in another the tenant found alternative accommodation and the owner gave an undertaking not to relet the house. The third unsatisfactory report concerned a row of cottages in a Clearance Area and the tenants were advised to take precautionary measures until such time as they will be rehoused on the Council's Harefield Housing Estate.

SUMMARY OF WATER SAMPLES SUBMITTED FOR

No., Date and Source.		CHEMICAL ANALYSIS.											
		Total solids (dried at 120° C).	Combined Chlorine (as Cl).	Equivalent to Sodium Chloride (NaCl).	Nitric nitrogen (Nitrates).	Nitrous nitrogen (Nitrites).	Ammoniacal nitrogen.	Albuminoid nitrogen.	Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27° C.	Lead or Copper.	Temporary hardness (equivalent to CaCO ₃).	Permanent hardness.	Total hardness.
No. 18182. 10/5/37. Uxbridge U.D.C. Town's Main.	Parts per 100,000	32.5	1.80	2.97	Nil	Nil	0.0004	0.0005	0.012	Nil	8.3	Nil	8.3
	Grains per gallon	22.8	1.26	2.08	Nil	Nil	0.0003	0.0004	0.008	Nil	5.8	Nil	5.8
No. 21608. 1/6/37. Shallow Well.	Parts per 100,000	36.5	2.20	3.63	0.40	Nil	0.0004	0.0010	0.014	Nil	26.0	3.0	29.0
	Grains per gallon	25.6	1.54	2.54	0.28	Nil	0.0003	0.0007	0.010	Nil	18.2	2.1	20.3
No. 21606. 1/6/37. Shallow Well.	Parts per 100,000	46.0	4.20	6.93	0.80	Nil	0.0008	0.0044	0.045	Nil	28.8	5.5	34.3
	Grains per gallon	32.2	2.94	4.85	0.56	Nil	0.0006	0.0031	0.032	Nil	20.2	3.8	24.0
No. 26181. 2/7/37. Rickmansworth & Uxbridge Valley Water Co.— Mains Supply.	Parts per 100,000	35.5	2.00	3.30	0.24	Nil	Nil	0.0004	0.004	Nil	23.8	Nil	23.8
	Grains per gallon	24.9	1.40	2.31	0.17	Nil	Nil	0.0003	0.003	Nil	16.7	Nil	16.7
No. 37944. 17/9/37. Shallow Well.	Parts per 100,000	85.5	7.00	11.55	1.46	*	0.0014	0.0054	0.040	Nil	32.0	19.5	51.5
	Grains per gallon	59.9	4.90	8.09	1.02		0.0010	0.0038	0.028	Nil	22.4	13.7	36.1
No. 52461. 7/12/37. Shallow Well.	Parts per 100,000	121.0	9.50	15.68	4.20	†	0.0354	0.0078	0.041	Nil	2.5	37.5	40.0
	Grains per gallon	84.7	6.65	10.98	2.94		0.0248	0.0055	0.029	Nil	1.8	26.2	28.0
No. 52463. 7/12/37. Shallow Well.	Parts per 100,000	38.0	2.30	3.80	0.20	Nil	0.0004	0.0014	0.008	Nil	25.0	3.5	28.5
	Grains per gallon	26.6	1.61	2.66	0.14	Nil	0.0003	0.0010	0.006	Nil	17.5	2.5	20.0

* Definite traces present.

† Traces present

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS DURING 1937.

BACTERIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS.

Average number of organisms producing visible colonies on gelatine plates, incubated at 20°-22° C. for 3 days.	Average number of organisms producing visible colonies on agar plates, incubated at 37.5° C. for 2 days.	B. Coli.	Streptococci	B. Welchii (spores).	Remarks.
9 per c.c.	Less than 1 per c.c.	Not found in 100 c.c.	Not found in 30 c.c.	Not found in 100 c.c.	The combined results show this water is of excellent quality for drinking purposes.
8 per c.c.	Less than 1 per c.c.	Not found in 100 c.c.	Not found in 30 c.c.	Not found in 100 c.c.	The results show this water to be of excellent quality and quite satisfactory for drinking purposes.
131 per c.c.	22 per c.c.	Present in 10 c.c.	Present in 15 c.c.	Present in 25 c.c.	The results show some evidence of contamination and the water cannot be regarded as entirely safe for drinking purposes.
32 per c.c.	24 per c.c.	Not found in 100 c.c.	Not found in 30 c.c.	Not found in 100 c.c.	The results show that this water is of excellent quality and quite satisfactory for drinking purposes.
266 per c.c.	29 per c.c.	Present in 1 c.c.	Present in 30 c.c.	Present in 50 c.c.	The combined results show that this water is polluted and in its present condition cannot be regarded as safe for drinking purposes.
106 per c.c.	32 per c.c.	Present in 2 c.c.	Not found in 30 c.c.	Present in 100 c.c.	The results show this water to be polluted and quite unfit for drinking purposes.
8 per c.c.	5 per c.c.	Not found in 100 c.c.	Not found in 30 c.c.	Not found in 100 c.c.	The results show this water to be quite satisfactory for drinking purposes in its present condition.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

HAREFIELD PLACE ESTATE. 9-in. SEWER.

This was constructed between the head of the existing rising main and The Pinnocks and was completed in April, 1937. The length of the 9-in. sewer including 5 manholes was 480 yards and connections were made to The Pinnocks and three cottages in possession of the Middlesex County Council. This was carried out by direct labour, two-thirds of the cost being contributed by the Middlesex County Council.

UXBRIDGE R.A.F. HEADQUARTERS, HILLINGDON.

The main sewerage of the above was connected to the Uxbridge sewer at Kingston Lane on the 13th July, 1937.

WEST DRAYTON R.A.F. DEPOT.

The 6-in. rising main from above Depot was connected to the 12-in. sewer at Manor Farm, Cowley, on the 30th September, 1937. These two connections having been made to the West Middlesex Scheme have now made the R.A.F. Sewage Works at Cowley obsolete.

R.A.F. FOUR STORES DEPOT, ICKENHAM.

The above system of sewers was almost ready to be connected direct to the West Middlesex Sewer in Austin's Lane, Ickenham, by the end of the year. This connection will put the R.A.F. Sewage Works at this Depot out of action.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

Under the Middlesex County Council Act of 1898, and subsequent Acts, the Middlesex County Council has power to supervise, cleanse, and maintain the rivers and streams in the County, with the exception of the Thames and the Lea, which are maintained by the Thames Conservancy Board and the Lea Conservancy Board respectively.

The work is carried out by the Department of the County Engineer.

There has been no observed pollution of rivers and streams in the District during 1937.

PONDS AND DITCHES.

Various ponds and ditches in all parts of the District were sprayed with a solution of Larvaecide during the summer months in an effort to prevent the breeding of mosquitoes, etc.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

There are about 84 earth closets and privies in the District and approximately 105 houses drained to cesspools. Of these 56 were dealt with by the Bedford Exhauster, 25 by contractors, and in the other cases allowances were made to the owners for emptying their own cesspools.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The collection of house refuse was continued with the same type of equipment during the year 1937, namely, 3 Fordson tractors, 5 "Eagle" trailers, 1 Ford 30-cwt. lorry, 1 Bedford lorry, and 4 horses and carts.

The Fordson tractors and trailers with the Bedford collect refuse from Southern Harefield, Hillingdon East, Ickenham, Cowley, and the R.A.F. Depot east of the River Pinn.

The Ford lorry collects from Northern Harefield, and Uxbridge Cottage Hospital.

The four horses and carts collect all refuse from the Uxbridge and Hillingdon West Wards.

REFUSE DISPOSAL.

All house refuse was disposed of by controlled tipping on the following sites :—

Northern Harefield	...	...	Watts Common, Harefield.
Hillingdon, Ickenham, S. Harefield			
and Cowley	...	...	Harlington Road Pit, Hillingdon.
Uxbridge and Hillingdon West	...	...	Uxbridge Sewage Disposal Works.

REFUSE FROM EARTH CLOSETS AND PRIVIES.

The Harefield Earth Closets are cleansed by a Contractor, the refuse being tipped at Broadwater Farm, where it is covered by the Council's workmen.

CESSPOOL CLEANSING.

During the year 474 cesspools were cleansed with the Council's Bedford Exhauster, representing 1,724 loads, or 560,300 gallons.

Contractors emptied 18 privy pits and cesspools (Hillingdon East 4, Harefield 14).

QUANTITY OF REFUSE COLLECTED AND DISPOSED OF.

The following table gives the quantity of house refuse collected and disposed of during 1937 :—

	<i>System.</i>	<i>No. of Loads.</i>	<i>Cub. Yds.</i>	<i>Tons.</i>
Uxbridge and Hillingdon West...	Horse and Cart	3,350	10,050	3,180·8
North Harefield	Ford Lorry	624	2,496	763·7
Hillingdon, Ickenham, South Harefield, and Cowley ...	Tractor Trailer	3,394½	23,761½	5,405·7
Totals		7,368½	36,307½	9,350·2

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

INSPECTIONS.

No. of Premises Inspected on Complaint of Nuisance	207
No. of Premises Inspected in connection with Infectious Diseases ...	166
No. of Premises under periodical Inspections	257
Total Number of Inspections and Re-inspections made... ..	4,391
No. of Inspections under Shops (Hours) Acts, 1912-28	5
Nuisances Discovered and Abated	221
Informal Notices	178
Statutory Notices Served	4
No. of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces Inspected	126
No. of Visits to Dairies	62
No. of Visits to Cowsheds	43
No. of Visits to Slaughterhouses	81

THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF THE PRINCIPAL ITEMS OF WORK INCLUDED IN THE ABOVE FIGURES :—

New Drainage Systems Provided (to existing buildings only)	7
Drains Cleaned and Repaired	40
Drains Examined and Tested	33
New Sinks and Lavatory Basins Provided	16
W.C.s Cleansed, Repaired and Renewed	19
Additional W.C. and Urinal Accommodation Provided	6
New Soil Pipes and Vents	8
Water-waste Preventers Repaired and Renewed	32
Rainwater Gutters and Pipes	10
Defective Sink and Bath Wastes Repaired	23
Houses requiring Walls, Ceilings, Floors, Roofs, etc., Repaired (not including those under Housing Act)	—
Premises Limewashed	—
Verminous Conditions Remedied (including Van Treatment of Furniture)	74
Yards Paved	4
New Inspection Chambers, etc.	8
New Dustbins Provided	37
Damp Conditions Remedied (not including those under Housing Act)... ..	—
Foul Dung Pits, Ditches, Manure Heaps, and Accumulations of Rubbish Remedied	47
Overcrowding Remedied	3
Water Samples Taken	7
Council Houses Inspected	117
Bakehouses Limewashed	11
Various	82

DISINFECTION.

167 rooms were disinfected.

Disinfection of clothing and bedding has been by steam sterilizer, and rooms and furniture by formalin spray and vapour.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Periodical inspection of these has been made, and on the whole they have been found satisfactory. See Table below and on page 24.

There were no instances discovered of outwork in unwholesome premises.

TENTS AND VANS, ETC., USED FOR HUMAN HABITATION.

74 caravans were moved away from various parts of the District.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are two within the District.

RAG AND BONE STORES.

No contraventions of the Bye Laws were discovered.

CANAL BOATS ACTS.

One new boat was registered. This was motor propelled.

SHOPS ACTS.

Several complaints of a minor nature were received and dealt with.

COWSHEDS, DAIRIES AND PIGGERIES.

Dairies Reconditioned...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Defective Floors Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Limewashed under Notice	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Nuisance from Accumulation of Refuse Abated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Piggeries Drained	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Cowsheds Reconditioned	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

(a) Registered (including (b))	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
(b) Licensed ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
 FACTORIES (Including Factory Laundries)	93	6	—
 WORKSHOPS (Including Workshop Laundries)	33	3	—
 WORKPLACES... .. (Other than Outworkers' Premises)	7	—	—
TOTALS	133	9	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts *</i>				
Want of Cleanliness	10	10	—	—
Want of Ventilation	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of Drainage of Floors	—	—	—	—
Other Nuisances	1	1	—	—
<i>Sanitary Accommodation :—</i>				
Insufficient	1	1	—	—
Unsuitable or Defective	8	8	—	—
Not separate for Sexes... ..	—	—	—	—
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground Bake-houses (s. 101)	—	—	—	—
Other Offences	—	—	—	—
[Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops) (Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921] ...				
TOTALS	20	20	—	—

* Including those specified in Sections 2, 3, 7 and 8, of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

SHOPS ACT, 1934.

Several complaints of a minor nature were received and dealt with.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

During the year observations were made for the excessive emission of smoke from the chimneys of factories and workplaces within the District. In six cases it was necessary to draw the attention of the managements concerned to the excessive emission of smoke, and upon subsequent observations the nuisances were found to be abated.

SWIMMING BATH.

The Council's public open-air bathing pool on the Hillingdon House Farm Estate, adjoining Uxbridge Common, was open from May 1st until September 24th. The hours of bathing were from 6.30 a.m. to sunset each day on weekdays, but on Saturdays and Sundays there was a break from 12 noon until 2 p.m.

The pool occupies one of the most elevated and commanding sites of West Middlesex, is 220 ft. long, with two shallow end areas, each 72 ft. 6 in. by 60 ft., the depth varying from 2 ft. 9 in. to 5 ft., and a deep area 90 ft. by 75 ft., ranging from 6 ft. to 9 ft. 6 in. in depth. In addition there is a children's paddling pool,

40 ft. by 20 ft., with a water depth ranging from 6 to 15 in. The capacity of the pool is 480,000 gallons and the Chloramine process of filtration has a turnover of 80,000 gallons per hour. There is accommodation for 952 bathers, with pre-cleansing hot and cold showers in the dressing-rooms. Footbaths are provided at the eight entrances to the pool. There is also a first-aid room with full equipment and an administrative building. The number of cases treated in the first-aid room has been greatly reduced; the minor cases arising from foot injuries due to the scattered shingle which were so prevalent have been obviated by the removal of this. I have equipped the first-aid room with several further items including an artificial resuscitator, and the addition of a steriliser will enable me to carry out minor stitching operations on the spot should the need arise.

A few statistics of the last two seasons will be of considerable interest.

	1936.	1937.
Total number of persons bathing during the season	66,564	88,809
Number of Children bathing (included in above figure)	29,034	34,614
Number of spectators	8,417	9,164
This shows a total attendance of	79,981	97,973
Highest number of bathers on any one day (Aug. 29th)	2,012	(Aug. 7th) 2,608

The Middlesex County Council and private schools sent parties of children at fixed times for periods of 30 minutes' bathing. In all 8,944 schoolchildren attended in these parties in comparison with 6,955 during the 1936 season.

The total consumption of water during the season was 1,498,000 gallons, which included the initial filling.

The highest water temperature recorded was 78° F. and the mean temperature of the season 68° F.

Bath-side water tests for efficient chlorination are taken at least twice per day by the Ortho-Tolodine process. An analysis of the water in the pool was taken during one of the peak periods, and for information it is set out below.

LABORATORY REPORT.

The amount of Free Chlorine present in this sample on arrival was found to be 0.43 parts per million.

(I) QUANTITATIVE.

The average number of organisms, producing colonies on gelatine plates incubated at 20° C. for 3 days, was found to be ... 14 per c.c.

The average number of organisms, producing visible colonies on agar plates incubated at 37.5° C. for 2 days, was found to be 3 per c.c.

(II) QUALITATIVE.

B. coli Not found in 100 c.c.

Streptococci Present in 30 c.c. Not found in less.

The results show that the water has been efficiently chlorinated and is quite satisfactory for bathing purposes.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

I give below particulars of the action taken for the eradication of bed bugs.

						<i>Council Houses.</i>	<i>Other Houses.</i>
No. of houses inspected	...	...	...	...	...	117	9
No. of houses found to be infested	...	...	...	...	...	23	2
No. of houses disinfested	...	...	...	...	...	23	2

All Council houses on becoming vacant are inspected for the presence of vermin, and the following action is taken if vermin are found :—

Any rubbish found in the house is immediately burned if possible in the grates of the houses, otherwise (for example, old furniture) it is taken into the garden and burned. All wooden fittings—picture rails, architraves, skirtings, etc., are driven away from the walls by means of hard-wood wedges, floor boards are lifted in such a way as to allow even diffusion of the fumigant under the floors, all openings—windows and fireplaces, etc. are sealed and a sufficient quantity of fumigant applied.

The advantages of this fumigant lie in its non-poisonous properties and the fact that it is visible in the form of a grey smoke, so that any external leakages may be readily sealed up after the fumigant is applied.

The house is then left for 24 hours if possible, but if occupied 6 hours will suffice; this enables the tenant to use the house for sleeping purposes the same evening. The hydrogen cyanide process would not permit of this and in any case is regarded as being too dangerous.

In some Council houses in cases of bad infestation the fumigant has been followed up by a high pressure spray of a proprietary vermicide before the wood-work is replaced.

There have been no instances reported during the year where vermin have reappeared after such treatment as outlined above.

In order to ensure that belongings of tenants are freed from vermin before removal into a Council house, one of two methods is adopted :—

Houses of applicants for Council houses are inspected and, if vermin are found, the application is only granted subject to the tenant allowing the Council to disinfest their furniture and effects. On the other hand, all furniture and effects removed from Clearance Areas is fumigated in vans as the tenants are moved to their new houses, and in the majority of instances the tenants have welcomed this proposal. The Council have two pantechicon vans in which the furniture is placed. These are then drawn by horses to some convenient and secluded place where a fumigant is applied, and then the vans are sealed and left for six hours. The doors are then opened and the contents of the vans allowed to air. They are then driven to the new houses and unloaded.

Where cases of bad infestation have been treated these are kept under supervision and the tenants advised of their part in the destruction of the pests. If further infestation is detected immediate action is taken.

During the year 49 removals were done in this way.

All work of disinfestation is carried out by the Council's own workmen. Your Public Health Department keeps in touch with all new developments in fumigation technique.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

The Middlesex County Council are the authority under this Act and the work of their inspectors of rat destruction is to a large extent advisory, and it is their duty to see that, so far as practicable, occupiers do not allow their premises to become or to remain infested. During the year, the County's inspector of rat destruction paid 57 visits to rat-infested premises in Uxbridge.

SPECIAL CLASSES OF PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS SUBJECT TO CONTROL BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

There are no special classes of premises and occupations subject to control by the Local Authority other than those governed under Bye-Laws. These are referred to elsewhere.

OTHER SANITARY CONDITIONS REQUIRING NOTICE.

There are no other sanitary conditions requiring notice.

RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911 AND 1928.

During 1937 it was not found necessary to take any action under these Acts.

SCHOOLS.

All the public schools in this District are under the control of the Middlesex County Council. These are 18 in all, with a total of 4,993 pupils. They are all provided with a water supply from the mains and the sanitary conditions are good.

<i>School.</i>	<i>Department.</i>	<i>Number on roll.</i>
ELEMENTARY.		
Uxbridge Senior School	Mixed	430
Whitehall Council	Junior	366
Whitehall Council	Infants	252
Belmont Road Council	Infants	100
St. Andrew's C.E.	Girls	69
St. Andrew's C.E.	Infants	77
St. John's C.E.	Juniors and Infants	82
St. Mary's R.C.	Mixed	212
Cowley C.E.	Juniors and Infants	219
Hillingdon Council... ..	Mixed	448
Hillingdon C.E.	Infants	262
Oak Farm Council... ..	Junior	386
Oak Farm Council... ..	Infants	492
Harefield Council	Infants	148
Harefield Council	Mixed	345
Swakeleys Council	Senior Mixed	391
Breakspear Council	Junior and Infants	193
SECONDARY.		4,472
Bishopshalt	Mixed	521
Total		4,993

We receive notifications from the Head Teachers of schools to the effect that certain pupils are absent, either as suffering from or as contacts with a case of infectious disease, and full advantage is taken of the information provided by them.

Where a case of infectious disease arises involving a school child, either as patient or contact, a notice of "Exclusion from school to prevent the spread of infectious disease" is issued by this Department, specifying the exclusion period.

It was not found necessary to close any school or part of a school to prevent the spread of infectious disease.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

SLUM CLEARANCE.

The first half of the year under review saw the completion of the removal of persons from the 1936 Clearance Areas to the new houses on the Avenue Housing Estate.

In November, 1936, the Council were presented with a provisional report upon the completion of their Slum Clearance programme. It was estimated that 361 houses and 1,450 persons would be affected.

The necessary procedure in respect of these properties was commenced during the past year and on the 23rd February, 1937, the Council passed the necessary statutory resolution declaring the following 16 areas in Harefield to be clearance areas. A similar resolution had already been passed in September, 1936, in regard to the Uxbridge (Beckleys Yard, Harefield) Clearance Area, and this was dealt with as part of the 1937 scheme.

Breakspear Road North, C.A. No. 1.
Breakspear Road North, C.A. No. 2.
Breakspear Road South, C.A.
Canal Side, C.A.
High Street, C.A. No. 1.
High Street, C.A. No. 3.
High Street, C.A. No. 4.
High Street, C.A. No. 6.
High Street, C.A. No. 7.
Hill End, C.A.
Moorhall Road, C.A.
Park Lane, C.A. No. 1.
Park Lane, C.A. No. 2.
Rickmansworth Road, C.A.
Summerhouse Field Lane, C.A. No. 1.
Summerhouse Field Lane, C.A. No. 2.

This scheme involves 374 persons or 124 houses.

On the 25th May the requisite orders were made by the Council.

On the 22nd June the Council passed the necessary statutory resolution declaring the following areas in Cowley to be clearance areas:—

Church Road C.A.
Cowley Peachey, C.A. No. 1.
Cowley Peachey, C.A. No. 2.
High Street, C.A. No. 1.
High Street, C.A. No. 2.
High Street, C.A. No. 3.
High Street, C.A. No. 4.
Iver Lane, C.A. No. 1.
Iver Lane, C.A. No. 2.
Iver Lane, C.A. No. 3.
Packet Boat Lane C.A.
Station Road C.A.

On the 29th June the requisite Orders were made by the Council and submitted to the Minister of Health for confirmation and on the 19th October a Public Local Inquiry was held.

The Orders were confirmed with the exception of 11 properties with regard to which the Minister agreed to the proposals of the owners to render the houses fit for human habitation.

This scheme involves 152 persons or 52 houses.

During the past year 9 Orders have been made requiring the demolition of individual houses unfit for human habitation.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

(1) INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

1.	(a)	Total number of Dwelling Houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	83
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	203
2.	(a)	Number of Dwelling Houses [included in sub-head (1) above] which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations, 1925	Nil
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	Nil
3.		Number of Dwelling Houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation (*These have been dealt with as Clearance Areas.)	*
4.		Number of Dwelling Houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	20

(2) REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

		Number of Defective Dwelling Houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	11
--	--	--	----

(3) ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

(a) *Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.*

1.		Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs	5
2.		Number of Dwelling Houses which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notices :	
	(a)	By Owners	3
	(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil

(b) *Proceedings under Public Health Acts.*

1.		Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	Nil
2.		Number of Dwelling Houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal Notices :	
	(a)	By Owners	Nil
	(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil

(c) *Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.*

1.		Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	9
2.		Number of Dwelling Houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	3

(d) *Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.*

1.		Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
2.		Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit... ..	Nil

(4) HOUSING ACT, 1936—OVERCROWDING.

(a)	(i)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ...	206
	(ii)	Number of families dwelling therein	206
	(iii)	Number of persons dwelling therein	1,286
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year...	3
(c)	(i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ...	3
	(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	26
(d)		Particulars of any cases in which Dwelling Houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	—

PROVISION OF HOUSES.

(a) Total number of New Houses erected during the year, including those given separately under (b).

Cowley	52
Harefield	38
Hillingdon East	718
Ickenham... ..	52
Uxbridge and Hillingdon West	21
Total	881

(b) With State Assistance under the Housing Acts.

By Local Authority.

Cowley	20
Harefield	—
Hillingdon East	—
Ickenham... ..	—
Uxbridge and Hillingdon West	—
Total	20

There were no houses erected with State Assistance under the Housing Acts by Bodies or Persons other than the Local Authority.

The total number of Council Houses occupied at the end of the Year was :—

Cowley	126
Harefield	212
Hillingdon East	468
Ickenham... ..	26
Uxbridge and Hillingdon West	452
Total	1,284

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

All the farms and dairies in the District are inspected at least four times during the course of each year. There are 45 persons registered with this Council as Retail Purveyors and 15 as producers.

Nineteen licences have been issued under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936, for the sale of graded milks.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Meat shops, stalls, slaughter-houses and food premises have been the subject of regular inspection and the conditions are generally satisfactory. There is no meat-marking scheme under part 3 of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1934.

During 1937 the following carcasses were inspected at various slaughter-houses in the District :—

Beasts	...	...	...	...	78
Sheep	...	...	...	...	405
Calves	...	...	...	...	33
Pigs	...	...	...	...	427
Total					953

The principal items of food condemned and destroyed as being unfit for human consumption were :—

Meat, Hams, Tinned Meat, Tinned Fruit, Fish, etc. ... approx. 6,603 lbs.

ADULTERATION OF FOODS.

By courtesy of the Chief Officer of the Public Control Department of the Middlesex County Council, I give below particulars of the action taken with regard to adulterated or misrepresented food.

<i>Articles Sampled.</i>					<i>No. Taken.</i>	<i>No. Adulterated or Misrepresented.</i>
Milk	...	...	...	...	92	—
Sardine and Tomato Paste				...	1	—
Sheep's Liver		...	...	...	2	1
Vinegar	...	...	...	...	4	—
					99	1

One prosecution was taken and a conviction secured. In this instance pig's liver was represented as being sheep's liver.

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD.

Chemical and bacteriological examination of food is carried out for us when necessary by the Clinical Research Association, Ltd. No samples were submitted during the year.

NUTRITION.

At all the County Council's Schools, with the exception of the Harefield School, arrangements are in force whereby children may receive a third of a pint of milk at school for $\frac{1}{2}$ d. These arrangements are made under the scheme of the Milk Marketing Board and the source of the milk supply has to be approved by the County Medical Officer of Health and the Local Medical Officer of Health. Only pasteurized milk has been approved.

In addition to the above arrangements, children certified by the Assistant School Medical Officers to be in need of extra nourishment are supplied with milk and/or cod liver oil in school, free or at reduced price if necessary. Some children may be sent for a stay at a residential special open air school either in the country or at the seaside.

SECTION F. PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE.
CLASSIFIED LIST OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED.

<i>Disease.</i>	<i>Ages of Cases Notified.</i>												<i>Total 1937</i>	<i>Total 1936</i>	<i>Total Cases Admitted to Hospital 1937 1936</i>		<i>Deaths 1937 1936</i>	
	<i>Under One Year</i>	<i>1 to 2</i>	<i>2 to 3</i>	<i>3 to 4</i>	<i>4 to 5</i>	<i>5 to 10</i>	<i>10 to 15</i>	<i>15 to 20</i>	<i>20 to 35</i>	<i>35 to 45</i>	<i>45 to 65</i>	<i>65 and up- wards</i>						
Scarlet Fever	—	7	11	15	8	54	20	4	13	3	—	—	135	200	124	193	—	—
Diphtheria	1	—	1	—	3	8	4	2	7	—	—	—	26	17	26	17	5	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	—
Erysipelas... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	6	1	12	16	—	1	—	—
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	17	3	—	—	22	10	19	—	1	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	6	—	—	—	—	7	2	7	2	4	2
Continued Fever... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	2	3	2	1	2	7	1	7	14	3	4	3	49	41	18	14	32	28
Small-pox... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)													See Table					
„ (Non-Pulmonary)													Do.					
Anterior Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Polio-Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS.

AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES.						DEATHS.					
	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary.			Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary.		
	Males.	Females.	Total	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total	Males.	Females.	Total.
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
5—15	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—25	3	2	5	2	—	2	1	1	2	1	—	1
25—35	2	2	4	—	—	—	3	4	7	—	—	—
35—45	3	3	6	—	—	—	1	3	4	—	—	—
45—55	5	2	7	—	—	—	4	—	4	—	—	—
55—65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and up	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	14	9	23	3	—	3	9	8	17	1	2	3

Ratio of non-notified Tuberculosis deaths to total Tuberculosis deaths, 4 : 16.

I am pleased to point out that there has been a reduction in the number of deaths from Tuberculosis this year.

DIPHTHERIA.

There has been an increase in the number of cases of this disease from 17 in 1936 to 26 in 1937. There were 5 deaths from the disease.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

At the end of 1936 arrangements were made with the Hayes and Harlington Urban District Council whereby children residing in this District could undergo immunisation treatment at their Clinic at Hayes Cottage Hospital, the cost of such treatment to be borne by this Council.

During the year under review five children attended this Clinic.

SCARLET FEVER.

In all, 135 cases of scarlet fever were notified, and of these 2 occurred within the Royal Air Force Depot, and were treated in their own Isolation Hospital.

I am pleased to report that this is a considerable reduction upon the number for 1936 when 200 cases of this disease were notified.

The cases were generally of a mild character, and no deaths were recorded.

PUERPERAL FEVER AND PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

On and after the 1st October, 1937, Puerperal Fever was no longer notifiable, all such cases being described as Puerperal Pyrexia. Prior to this date no cases of Puerperal Fever occurred.

Twenty-two cases of Puerperal Pyrexia, which is any febrile condition occurring in a woman within 21 days after childbirth or miscarriage, were notified during the year. Eighteen patients were treated in Hillingdon Hospital (twelve from outside the District) and three at home, and one in Queen Charlotte's Hospital. One death occurred.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

One case of this disease occurred during 1937. The infant and mother were removed to St. Margaret's Hospital, and I am pleased to say a satisfactory recovery was made, with no impairment of vision.

ENTERIC FEVER.

There were two cases of paratyphoid fever during 1937. There was no connection between the cases, and enquiries failed to disclose any particular cause.

CEREBRO-SPINAL MENINGITIS.

Seven cases of cerebro-spinal meningitis were notified during the year, and of these six occurred within the Royal Air Force Depot, Uxbridge, and were treated in their own Isolation Hospital; three of the deaths from this disease were among these cases.

The civilian case was a boy aged five who was removed to a London Hospital for treatment. The patient died after a period of six weeks.

MEASLES.

You will have seen under the heading "Deaths" that one person died from measles during 1937.

CHICKEN POX.

This disease is not notifiable within the Uxbridge Urban District, so that I am unable to give you figures of the number of cases, of which there were, undoubtedly, many in the area. Children and their contacts were excluded by the Head Teachers of schools, but I was sorry to notice the casual way in which the parents dealt with this disease. In many cases no medical practitioner was called in and children were allowed to run about the streets, in some cases, with the skin eruption still present.

The disease is contagious and may lead to complications.

INFLUENZA.

There was a large number of cases, and 16 deaths during 1937, 6 more than the previous year.

SMALL POX.

There have been no cases of this disease for some years, but the Middlesex County Council have made full arrangements with the London County Council for the use of beds at an isolation hospital and a special ambulance, if required.

SUPPLY OF PROPHYLACTIC SERA.

A supply of diphtheria anti-toxin and anti-meningococcus serum is kept at the Public Health Department and a small quantity of each at my residence—The Red House, High Street, Uxbridge. Medical practitioners can obtain these on application to the office or at my house *when* the office is closed.

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion this Report indicates a most satisfactory state of health in the District you administer.

I wish to thank the Officers of other Departments for statistics and information which they have kindly supplied.

The Officers of my Department have performed their duties with tact and efficiency.

May I thank you, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, for your unfailing courtesy and appreciation at all times.

WILLIAM TOWNSEND DOBSON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
Medical Officer of Health.

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